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a Not Quite Complete.

When the Hon. PERRY BELMONT was explaining the other day his relation to the MILLS bill, and his opinion respecting the neglect of that great effort of statesmanship to propose to repeal the duty on works of art-a measure of which Mr. BELMONT has always been a conspicuous championwe rather regretted that he did not go on and give a more complete account of the reason why Mr. MILLS and his associates left that objectionable duty untouched, notwithstanding their great zeal for smashing the tariff generally.

We suppose the real reason for this curious inconsistency must be sought for in the platform of the Democratic National Convention of 1884. In that declaration of principles we find the proposition that "the necessaries of life not produced in this country shall come in free, and that all articles of luxury should be taxed as high as possible up to the collecting point."

Now, works of art are not necessaries of life, but articles of luxury; and for this reason it probably was that Mr. MILLS kept his destroying hand away from this unnecessary duty, which Mr. BELMONT is so anxious to have abolished. In other words, he did not see his way clear to depart from the Democratic platform in that respect, much as he may have been willing to revolutionize it in some other particulars.

Mr. BELMONT was a member of the House during the whole episode of the MILLS bill, and, as he himself shows, refused to vote in its favor, though his opposition to it was not excessive or extravagant. Thus, though a Democrat, he was not afraid to put himself on the record as hostile to that declaration of the Chicago Convention which we have just quoted. There is nothing in human conduct that is more manly or admirable than the firmness of the statesman who, upon grounds of principle and conviction does not hesitate to oppose and counteract the doctrine and policy of his party:

"Justum et tenacem propositi virum, Non civium arder prava jubentium, Non vuitus instantis tyranni, Mente quatit solida."

The Singular Provision in the New Sealing Lease.

A surprising feature in Mr. WINDOM's call for bids for the new lease of the Pribylov Islands is the limitation of the maximum catch to 60,000 seals for the first year, leav ing the number for succeeding years indefinite, and depending on the Secretary's dis-

The first impression is that this fundamental change is wholly unnecessary; the second, that the existing lessees, the Alaska Commercial Company, will be likely to profit by it. After expressions of doubt as to whether it would really pay them to compete again for the privilege, in consequence of the alleged danger of the extinction of the animals under the raids of poachers, they announce that they are in the field and hope to get the award, even if not the highest bidders, because they have given so much satisfaction to the Government hitherto.

The authorized catch on the islands for the last twenty years has been 100,000, except that in one year only 80,000 seals were killed and in another 75,000. The effect of reducing the number to 60,000 next year, leaving also all future catches uncertain, must be to disturb the calculations of those who intended to bid. On a basis of 100,000 they can judge of the future by the past, especially if they have been able to get access to the figures of the fortune reaped by the Alaska Commercial Company. But with forty per cent. or more taken from the possible catch, while the original outlay and running expenses remain the same, new bidders are at once set adrift in uncertainty. This change, on the other hand, is of much less importance to the existing company, because its expensive plant, elaborated through twenty years, is already there. They themselves might be reluctant to supply it again on an allowance of only 60,000 skins annually, did they not know from experience that even this would pay them. The advantage therefore of the proposed change is clearly on the side of the present holders of the lease. Should they renew it, and then have the authorized number promptly restored to 100,000 a year, the

affair would look very queer, indeed. Is the reduction necessary? It certainly does not seem so. A good deal has been said lately about the diminishing number of the seals, and, no doubt, under the weak and vacillating policy of the last two years, posching has increased; but it is perfectly evident that it is for the interest of the Alaska Commercial Company, which wishes not only to renew its lease but to do so with the least possible competition, and on the lowest possible terms, to magnify the extent of the illicit poaching and its injury to the seals. Still, it is not necessary that the Secretary of the Treasury should take the company's view of the situation by so remarkably reducing the number of skins authorized. However, when the lease has been renewed for twenty years, the lessees, whoever they may be, will probably have a different story to tell, and will show that 100,000 seals a year can safely be taken, and perhaps that the odd 40,000 now to be sacrificed can be made up.

It has lately been said that 30,000 skins a TINGLE once reported that three out of four of the seals shot by poschers sink and are never recovered. One of the leading British Columbian captains engaged in scaling says that this estimate is preposterous, and that out of sixteen that are shot only about one escapes. Even Mr. SLoss, President of the Alaska Company, recently put the poached seals killed last season at 50,000 or 60,000, of which 20,000 were saved. But, taking Agent TINGLE'S extreme figures, we should have to add 90,000 for the seals shot and sinking to the 30,000, which would give 120,000 a year, end the 100,000 lawfully killed would then give a total of 220,000. No doubt that is a great many to take away from the Pribylov Islands and their vicinity; but only two years ago a careful calculation of "the total of breeding seals on St. Paul and St. George Islands," made by Assistant Agent Noves, put the number at 6,557,750. Mr. TINGLE, who did not make the exact calculation, also admitted that there must be nearly 5,000,000 breeding seals visiting there. Hence, even with an extravagant estimate as to the peaching of the present year, which exceeded that of the year before, it seems strange to say that the extra number killed by poachers in the two seasons has so essentially reduced the five or six millions belonging to the Pribylov Islands as to make it necessary to suddenly bring down the legal maximum for the lessees forty per cent., at the moment when competition ought to

be encouraged. In reality, as has been seen, there are

year, lawfully and unlawfully; and since there are rookeries on the Russian side of Behring Sea, possibly some of the seals taken scores of miles out by poschers are from those which to there, and not to St. Paul and St. George. The rent of the latter slands is fixed at \$55,000 a year; but this is the smallest item of the income they yield. The Government also gets \$2 revenue for each skin taken, and 624 cents royalty for the successful bid on the lease. So it appears that, by reducing the number of skins to 60,000 the first year, Mr. WINDOM cuts off from the Government \$105,000 even should the present royalty fail to be increased.

If this is a needless reduction on an alarm raised by the Alaska Commercial Company in its own interest, it is a dead loss. Forfunately it is not likely to continue more than a year or less, since after the new lease is arranged the Government will probably learn that there is no danger of extermination, and that it might as well have the profit on those 40,000 skins as to leave them to poachers.

A False Attack. Both the Globe-Democrat and the Nebraska State Journal assail the late HENBY WOODFEN GRADY, because in a recent speech at Atlanta he spoke in high praise of JEFFERSON DAVIS, and in his address at Boston, his last public utterance before his death, he also spoke in high praise of the Puritans of Massachusetts. We are bound to add that both of these attacks were published before the news of Mr. GRADY's sudden demise had reached either St. Louis or Lincoln, and it is quite possible that neither of these important journals would have critised him in fighting style if the fact of his untimely decease had been known. But the circumstance takes nothing from the point of their criticism; and we proceed to put side by side the two inculpated passages as follows:

"I have a boy who is the "I have a boy who is the ope of my life, and there pride and the promise of to the base of whose statue want him to be a good cit-l would send him sconer to sen and a good man; and learn the duties of a citizen there is no spot in all this and a patriot than the broad republic, nor is all statue of the golden-heartest this world, on which I had gentleman whose death we rather have him stand to mourn to-day. Let us build learn the lesson of citizen-this statue, that it may per-ship, of individual liberty, octuate the memory of this of fortitude, of heroism, great man, honor the soil and justice than the spot on which it is set and stand on which I stood this mornas an example and an iu-ing, reverent and uncor-spiration to the young of ered."

Now, there is absolutely no contradiction in these two passages. The qualities which Mr. GRADY admired and lauded in Mr. DAVIS are the same qualities which he admired and lauded in the Puritans. The conditions which surrounded and influenced the Confederate chief were very different from those amid which the Puritans did their work; but the fidelity to ideas, the conscientious and unvarying purpose, the heroic adherence to convictions of duty, and the plain uncompromising strength and earnestness of thought and deed, were the same in the one as in the other.

It was not always our fortune to be able to agree with Mr. GRADY in the conclusions of his judgment; but he never displayed any double-dealing in thinking or in speaking; and he never set up in one place an ideal of life or conduct which he repudiated in another. His was the entire consistency of a generous heart and a manly appreciation of all that is noble and magnanimous in the actions and examples of men.

The Lesson of Our Loss.

Merchants of the town complain with good reason of the summary stoppage of the electric light when they have especial need of it at this holiday season. Their business has been arranged with reference to the new method of illumination, and they cannot change the order as rapidly as the Mayor's workmen can tear down the wires. Moreover, the comparative darkness of the streets tends to discourage evening shopping, and thus diminishes trade.

The chief sufferers from the Mayor's wholematter are, therefore, not the electric light companies, but the people themselves. Oftentimes, the suddenness with which they have been deprived of the illumination has given them no time in which to provide anything like an adequate substitute for what they have lost, and much injury to trade and no little personal hardship have resulted. Shutting off the Croton water would, of course, be a far more serious calamity, but the extinguishing of the electric lights also takes away what has become a necessity to civilization. It is true that experience has proved that the electricity was dangerous because of the manner in which it was conducted through the town, but the public had been warned of the peril, and with

needful precautions the overhead wires might have remained until they were gradually replaced by a safer method of conveying the electric current. The Mayor, with all his praiseworthy intentions, seems to us, therefore, to have proceeded without good judgment. It struck many of the people and the newspapers

pretty generally as an admirable and Napoleonic way of doing things to send men out at short notice to tear away the wires as the police might be thrown against a raging mob. But such a summary method of doing the job has proved in practice to be mischlevous. It has seriously disturbed the comfort of many thousands of citizens and lessened the safety of life and property. The growth of modern civilization has been largely due to artificial light. The candle or lamp, then the year are taken by poachers; and Agent introduction of illuminating gas, and finally the utilization of electricity as a means of producing light, have extended the working hours of the student and the man of affairs, and increased the demand for labor. With the aid of the electric light building can go on both day and night, and work which must necessarily be done in the hours of natural darkness has been greatly facilitated and made far less injurious to health and exhausting to the energies than when it was performed under the artificial gas light, with its generation of heat and its accompanying emanations. Hence, to take away the electric light, even for a brief period, is to throw society into something like confusion, and to hinder and less sen its profitable labors and its desirable

> recreations. Yet it is only within a very few years that invention has made electricity available for lighting purposes. The new method of illumination had hardly passed its experimental stage when the assault on the wires was begun. We were dealing with a novelty. The development of the invention was in its inciplency only. The electricians themselves were in the primary class of the school of experience. They were learning how to use the subtle agent and were conscious of their own ignorance and that they were proceeding tentatively to find out what could be accomplished with it. There is little doubt that in the future, and probably in the near future, our present methods of utilizing electricity for illumination will seem feeble and bungling. The day may be at hand

be little difference between day and the night in New York.

Our sudden deprivation of the electric light, with the consequent cenfusion, will accordingly bring its compensations. The public have found out how indispensable the Illumination is to them, and the demand for it will hereafter increase to such an extent that inventive minds and the genius for discovery will be stimulated more than ever to get out of the mysterious agent all that it is capable of performing. We shall have safer and better electric lighting. The period of darkness will be short, and will be succeeded by a more brilliant illumination. But the town has learned the lesson of its dependency on the new light at the expense of very much loss and discomfort.

A Postal Telegraph Bill.

Mr. CULLOM of Illinois, in the Senate, and Mr. BINGHAM of Pennsylvania, in the House, have brought in a bill establishing a postal telegraph service. As Mr. BINGHAM is Chairman of the Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads he will have an opportunity to push the bill ahead. The measure authorizes the Postmaster-General to contract with any existing telegraph company for the use of its lines for postal messages between free-delivery offices. The Postmaster-General is to decide the extent and location of the proposed service, and to fix the rates, which are to be prepaid by stamps. The telegraph messages are to be delivered by the regular carriers at the first mail delivery following and "at such other times as the Postmaster-General may direct."

Plans of the same nature as the CUL-LOM-BINGHAM scheme for a postal telegraph were proposed in the Fiftieth Congress, and doubtless still others will be laid before the present Congress. It is fair to suppose, therefore, that certain members of Congress imagine that there is some demand for postal telegraph. But where is the demand? The Nationalists and various sporadic conventions of cranks want the Government to own or control the telegraph lines and the telephone lines. Is the postal telegraph meant as a sop to these cranks?

It is hard to see what practical end it would serve. If there is a complaint against the existing telegraph service, the complaint must be that the charges are too high or the delivery is too slow, or, possibly, that some small places cannot be reached. The postal telegraph plan under consideration is restricted to free-delivery places, and, consequently, applies only to towns already supplied with ample telegraphic facilities. As to prices, it is not to be expected that existing lines will allow the Government to become their lessee to underbid them. If the Government is allowed to send messages by its leased lines at a low rate, it will be because the slower delivery provided for will more than counterbalance in the mind of the public the decreased rates. The sender of a telegraph message wants it delivered at once. If he wanted it delivered as mail, he would write and not telegraph.

We do not see how public convenience would be promoted by the establishment of a postal telegraph. That it is none of the Government's business to manage telegraphs is a proposition which Mr. Cullon and Mr. BINGHAM would deem of no importance, but it

is not the less a fatal objection to their plan. Let the Republicans take up the ideas of the Nationalists if they will, but it is the duty of the Democrats to oppose them. The beginning of all schemes for increasing the powers or functions of the Government should be strenuously opposed.

Mr. HENRY CABOT LODGE of Nahant and Boston has the honor of being Chairman of the House Committee on the Election of President, Vice-President, and Congress, Mr. Lodge ex pects this committee to be of importance. Ordinarily it is not. Mr. Longs expects that the committee will be of great importance. He could have had a better committee. He chose this comparatively humble one. He was a good friend of Tom REED's, and, singularly enough, a particular friend of Brother BLAINE'S. Mr. Longs is not even a Colonel but he is solid in Augusta as in Nahant. And he proposes that there shall be no interference sale and peremptory way of dealing with the on the part of the Government with elections not satisfactory to Mr. Longe and his party. Mr. Longe is an intelligent statesman, and

his ideas are good for his party. If Mr. Longe can make a name out of elections, and such seems to be his wish, it is well. Unfortunately, by elective studies. Mr. Lodge's party has preferred to steal elections instead of gaining them.

We are sorry if there is to be trouble among the wives of the high Federal officials in Washington over a proposition of the President's wife; but for that, there is a precedent Mrs. Habrison, who is under the restraints of mourning, intends, it is said, to have her place at the next New Year's Day recention held for her by her daughter-in-law, and Mr. Habbison's grandbaby's mother, Mrs. McKer. Mrs. McKEE, the wife of the unofficial Hoosler father of Baby McKez, will greet the visiting statesmen and their wives before the wives of the potential Presidents who fill the Vice-Presidency and places in the Cabinet. Natrally the preceded ladies don't approve of the arrangement. Yet, during the late Adminstration, when Mr. BAYARD was Secretary of State, his eldest daughter, in the absence of per mother, claimed and received the full consideration que to the Secretary's wife.

On the whole this does not appear to be an pareasonable arrangement, and we advise the Washington ladies concerned to accept it, unless they resolve to conform to the true Republican platform and decide the question of presadence by competitive literary examination Why not try that plan anyway?

Major Jones welcomes with enthusiastic gratitude a certificate from Field Marshal MURAT HALSTEAD that the St. Louis Republi is the " one thorough Democratic newspaper published at this time in the United States of America. It looks as if Major Jones's peculiar and idiosyncratic conception of Democracy was beginning to be appreciated.

We add our testimony that Major Jones is the handsomest journalist in America. Haz-STEAD used to maintain that enviable position. but now, owing to circumstances and the onward sweep of time, he is nowhere in the race.

That was a very interesting debate which occurred in the House of Representatives the ther day between Mr. HOLMAN of Indiana and the Hon. HOGER QUARLES MILLS OF Texas. Mr. HOLMAN offered a motion in behalf of economy in spending the public money, and Mr. Mills snapped out that this was the same old speech ne had been listening to for sixteen years. At every session, he said, the House was treated to a lecture on economy, and he did not like it. Mr. Holman replied with his wonted moderation, and when the vote was taken his motion prevailed, and Mr. MILLS had lost his labor.

Mr. Holman has been a member of the House of Representatives for nearly thirty years, and there is no man to whom the American people owe a greater debt of gratitude for faithful, incessant, and utterly disinterested services. No public money has either been wasted or stolen with his complicity.

Dr. BAUMANN, the African traveller, after

seeming to be in very hard luck, now considers himself very fortunate after all. He had tramped for months up and down Usambara for the purpose of making a careful map of that interesting country. At last, with many note books full of data, he was returning to the coast when he was attacked by the late BUSHIRI's soldiers and barely escaped with his life. Even though he got away with a whole skin, his calamity was a very serious one, for probably not more than 160,000 seals killed a | when so far as light is concerned there will | he was robbed in a moment of the results of

scientific labors which were the outcome of long months of toll and which he had travelled

thousands of miles to schleve. Returning empty handed to Europe, he did his best to produce his map from memory, but, of course, he could depict only the larger details and was not entirely certain of their accuracy. He never expected to see a single sheet of his note books again, and, therefore, his joy was unbounded when, a few months ago, his entire records were sent to him from Zanzibar. The Arabs, instead of scattering them to the winds, as he supposed they would do, took them to the coast, where they fell into the hands of an Indian trader who in turn sent them to the British Consul at Zanzibar. Not a scrap of paper was missing, and Dr. Baumann's map has just been published with the story of its remarkable preservation.

There is some prospect that the missionary in Armenia who was so terribly maltreated by Moussa Bey will, with the aid of other victims of that worthy's brutality, and supported by the sympathy of the larger part of Europe, make it very warm for the Turkish Governor in spite of the whitewashing he has just received in Constantinople. There are two facts which explain the circumstance that the wrongs of the oppressed people in this remote corner of Europe are the occasion even of party dispute in England. Inthe first place the Armenians are Christians, and it has for a half century been the policy of Europe not to tolerate the oppression of Christian provinces by Mohammedan Turkey. Then Russia's territory adjoins Armenia, and, in England's eyes, there s danger that Russia, moved not only by reigious sympathy, but also by love of territorial aggrandizement, may seize upon the disturbances in the province as a pretext for adding it to the dominions of the Czar. Fortunately here is a good prospect that the various sympathies and interests involved will result in smellorating the unhappy condition of this inoffensive people.

Does THE SUN refuse to print the advertise-gents of corsets for sale t—Pallodelphia Inguirer.

Not at all. If you want to sell yours, send in your advertisement.

MR. BAYARD AND THE LATE JUDGE BRADFORD.

Mr. Havard Disclaims Responsibility for

Edward G. Bradford, Esq., has recently received from the Hon. Thomas F. Bayard a letter, in reply to a note addressed by Mr. Bradford to Mr. Bayard, calling the attention of the latter to an article in Tru Mun of the 15th instant, which was also published in the columps of the Every Evening and Evening Journal of last Monday. The article referred to purported to give, through an alleged acquaintance or friend. Mr. Bayard's views of the crisin and purpose of the tax legislation of 1873, and imputed to Mr. Bayard's legislation of 1873, and imputed to Mr. Bayard language containing gross aspersions upon the judicial character and farness of the late Judge Bradford. Mr. Bayard's letter, now published without objection and with his consent, is as follows:

Wilmington, Del. Bec. 18, 1880. From the Wilmington Nesot,

WILBINGTON, Del., Dec. 18, 1880.

rd G. Bradford, Esq. DEAR SIE: Upon my return to-night from Washingon, after several days' absence, I find your letter of the 16th instant, referring to "an article in Tun Bun," re-published in Every Evening and the Evening Journal of this city yesterday. "purporting to give through as sequaintance or friend" of mine my views on the tax laws of 1873, imputing to me certain strictures and aspersions upon your late father in connection with the trial of Archibald Given. I regret exceedingly that such publication should have been made and the pain it has caused you. I had no knowledge of the publication not having seen Tax Sun for several weeks nor as ye the two Wilmington papers which you say contained it And as neither directly nor indirectly have these publi cations been made by my authority, nor with any knowledged, sanction, or approval on my part, I cannot accept the slightest responsibility for them, nor feel that I am called on to comment upon such wholly unwarranted and unauthorized imputations. Yours respectfully,

Not the Result. But the Sequel.

Benjamin H. Day, who died in New York the other day, was fairly entitled to rank as a pioneer in American journalism. He passed his boyhood in New England, and then went to New York, where he followed the printer's trade He there conceived the idea that by issuing a unique handbill, which should contain the more important items of news of the day, as well as advertise the excellence of his job printing office, and which could be sold for a cent a copy. he might turn an honest penny. He undertook the task without a dollar of capital, and was his own editor, publisher compositor, pressman, and delivery clerk. That was the beginning of THE SUN, and the result of his enterprise, as it has since been developed is seen in this

The Trouble with Harvard Athleties. From the Boston Dally Advertiser.

Of all causes assigned by Harvard alumni their beloved aims mater smarts, so far as athletics is concerned, the most potent cause is undoubtedly the partial breaking up of the class system, brought about

From the Courier Journal. Mr. Yeast has been made a Postmaster in

Foreign Notes of Real Interest. Schliemann began again to excavate at Hissariik on Tov. 25.

A monument to Victor Noir, the young man who was killed in 1870 by Prince Pierre Bonaparte, has been completed by the sculptor, Dalou, for a committee, which intends to erect it in some part of Paris.

A new substitute for coffee may turn up in a berry known as "gaerinera." The British Consul at Heunion says that at one time he has received many letters from merchants in England asking for information respect ing a shrub then called "mussaenda," the discovery of which, it had been said in some commercial journals, would deal a severe blow to the coffee and chicery trade. About two years ago a rumor was stread that the b-rry of this shrub could be advantageously em-ployed as a substitute for coffee and chloory. It grows to about ten feet high, has very few leaves, and its branches are wide apart. The berries do not grow all along the branches, as is the case with coffee, but in bunches at their extremniles. At present it is only met with in the mountains, where it grows wild. It might be produced on an extensive scale; but with its inferiority in fragrance and color, it could hardly compete wit

interesting to the public who purchase photographs of pictures in the Louvre. In 1883 an arrangement was entered into by the Administration of the Fine Arts with Braun & Ce, which conferred on Braun the exclusive right to take photographs of all the pictures and other works of art in the Louvre and other national museums. It was stipulated that no other person was to enjoy a similar right for thirty years. Boussod, Valadon & Co., the successors of M. Goupil, protested most strongly, especially as they had not long be ore commenced the publication of the complete reproduction by photogravure of the Louvre masterpieces. The present suit is on their behalf against the State, demanding the cancelling of the contract with Braus and the pay-ment of two hundred thousands france damages. The question whether the friends of a man with an un-

faithful wife should give him a hint of her conduct or

leave him in ignorance has at length become the sub-

ject of legal consideration. The precedent established inclines against any revetations to the husband. Some years ago M. de Verneull, a watchmaker, was informed by a couple named Dameron that his wife was "carry ing on "with a member of the Cirque & Biver, named Breils. The Damerons further told him that Madame Verneuil would meet Breils that night at the circus door and they urged him to go and see for himself, and inflamed him with wine and also provided him with a darger. When he actually saw Breile with his wife he rushed upon them and killed the lover with a stab in the breast and seriously wounded his wife. The Brelle family sued Verneuil and the latter was condemned to pay 8,000 sued vernesul and the latter was condemned to pay 3,000 francs. Then the Brelles carried the war into the Dameron camp, and the case has just been settled. The latter are sentenced to pay 1,000 francs to the family of "their victim." It was ruled that the fact of revealing to a husband the mignouldust of his wife did not in itself render the informer responsible for what might occur subsequently, but that if efforts were made to excite the injured man to reverse and if assistance. to excite the injured man to revenge, and if assistance were given him into the hargain, that was a dif-ferent matter. If, therefore, the disagreeable revelation is simply confined to a friendly warning, the informer will not be regarded as responsible for the result; if, however, any remarks calculated to lead to a breach

She Enew It Was Coming. He (at the ball)-Do you know I have decided

She (hastily) -- Let us go into the conservatory.

Passenger (in the elevator on the basement sort—Can't i go down any further ! Elevator Ber—Eet unless you don

A THIRSTY PROSPECT

Most of the Official Ladies of Washington WASHINGTON, Dec. 26,-The New Year's sception is dying out in Washington. Year by year the ladies receiving calls decrease in number, and the reception of the first of January, 1890, will be confined to the White House, the mansions of the Cabinet Ministers, and the houses of some few ladies of the Senate and the Supreme Court. The wife of the President and a number of the Senatorial lagies tell me that the reason for this comes from the custom of serving punch at New Year's, and the day when New Year's calls make the excuse for a grand Washington spree will soon be gone forever. This year Washington society, with the exceptions above spoken of, will leave a butler and a basket to receive the cards of the backwoods Congressmen, and others who have not kept up with the times. Many of the girls will

punch-bowl. The sentiment among the people which has made Kansas, Iowa, and Maine prohibition States has affected in a great part the rest of the Union, and a Senator's wife tells me that the leading ladies in all the aid societies of the churches in her little town held a prayer meeting just before she started for Washington and asked God to enable her to resist the evils and corruptions of the capital,

go to the matines in the afternoon, and there will be a number of big balls in the evening.

In all probability not a dozen houses which

will be open next Wednesday will have a

There is, however, only one public man here who dares to give a dinner without wine. He is a Senator, and when he came in a few years ago he announced brashly that he would give as many dinners as he chose, with never a drop to drink. He did give them, and on each occasion his roof covered more suppressed swearing than the roof of a cowboy's ranch. One Senator went into the dressing room after the seven-course dinner and violently asked of every incomer if such a course should go unrebuked. In this Administration there will be only four besides the President who will give dinners-Vice-President Morton, Secretary Blaine, Secretary Tracy, and probably Secre try Windom. The Postmaster-General would like to do so, but his entertainments will run to receptions and balls. Mrs. Wanamaker says a dinner is not a dinner without wine, and, as she disapproves of that because of the example to the young, there will be no formal dinners at the Wanamaker house.

Nearly every social law here but one emapates from the Executive mansion, and that one is the serving of wine at the New Year's reception. Custom has it that the multitude need not be dined or wined at the White House on that day. Of the Cabinet ladies all but Mrs. Proctor will keep open house, and but three will serve wine.

When the subject was broached to the Vice-

President's wife she said: "Really, don't you know, I have been away from Washington so long that I have forgotten the customs. I really do not know what they do serve here on a New Year's Day."

There is a deep-rooted opinion, however, that no one will leave the Vice-President's mansion thirsty next Wednesday.

As the wine drinkers of the capital, the foreigners and navy officers form the bulk of the guests of the Secretaries of State and of the navy, they will have punch bowl and decanter. Secretary Windom will have no wine on Wednesday. In a little talk at the President's table a few weeks ago, when Mr. Wanamaker was also present, the Secretary of the Treasury advanced the opinion that every Cabinet member should follow his own principles on the subject.

Oh. of course, we will keep open house," said Miss Nellie Windom when I asked the question, "but I am quite sure papa will not have punch or wine, although he does not disapprove of them on all occasions."

"My husband and I have one quarrel," said Mrs. Noble, when asked whether she would serve wine at her first New Year's reception.

"It is the Daniel Webster anecdote, and it comes up every year. It seems that Daniel Webster went to the house of a friend for a week's visit, and when he found that his friend did not serve wine he packed up his goods and departed the first night. Mr. Noble says that a man of Daniel Webster's genius should have had his wises respected. I say that the other man had as much right to his principles as Mr. Webster to his wine. I shall not serve wine at any of my receptions or dinners. Two or three years ago in St. Louis Mr. Noble wanted to give a dinner in honor of some Judge. He felt that he could not give it without some wine. I said that there should be no dinner then. Well, he gave the dinner without wine, and the day following one of the guests congratulated him on his courage. Fon't praise me, said he, 'it was my wile who had the courage."

"What will you substitute for wine New Year's Day?"

"Substitute? There is no substitute. It is a case of wine or no wine, for nothing will take its place. Wine is good. I like it, and keep it on my sideboard, but that is no sign I mean to serve it to young men and mixed companies."

"What will you do when the foreigners call?"

"I am not a foreigner."

The wife of the head of the Department of of Justice, when a ked as to wine, replied:

"I have never served wine in Chicago and I shall not do it here on New Year's Day. The harm in the custom comes from giving it to young men."

When the question was asked of Mrs. Secretary tark leads of the seal of the tark leads of Mrs. Secretary lays the seal of the part tark leads of Mrs. serve wine at her first New Year's reception, "it is the Daniel Webster anecdote, and it

"Thave never served wine in Chicago and I shall not do it here on New Year's Day. The harm in the custom comes from giving it to young men."

When the question was asked of Mrs. Secrotary Rusk, she said emphatically:

"I shall have coffee, bouillon, and checotate, but no wine. Neither I nor my husband is averse the temperate use of wines, but we will never give it to a mixed gathering such as a New Year's reception. When I was here years ago I saw many a New Year's acilier who showed the effect of too much drinking."

The wile of Chief-Justice Puller is another woman who objects to the use of wine. She said: "I shall never serve wine at snother New Year's reception. I have always been used to it, as in my lather's family it was the custom to serve it to guests, but after what I saw in my first winter in Wasnington. I have decided never to have punch, and if anything at all, only a light claret at my receptions. I shall never give a punch made of run or champagne to any but recept i knew well. Do not hink I have seen any cases of geouine intoxication in Wasnington society. But I have really seen men and women, too, who showed signs of too frequent potations. I probably saw more of it than most hosteses, as I lived so far out; people came in cold and tired and, before they knew it had taken too much."

Mrs. Stephen J. Field is one of the best entertainers of the capital, but she does not believe in the New Year's punch bow. She says:

"I have never served anything but clairet to Capito Hill that I feel that if it is their habit to use wine, hospitality demands that I serve it. Justice Field likes a cup of chocolate better than anything else when he makes calls, and I always have it for psoile who, like him. profer it. I can notice a decided clange in custom in ten years. Sherry, cla et, and champagne used to be served, but hardly a house in Washington in the Supreme Court families serve light wines on such occasions. I believe ex-Justice Stross is the only one who never has it even a this dinners."

Mrs. Eugene H

that day. I have never served any kind of wine, although I do not recall seeing any serious results from it."

Mrs. Eugene Hale of Maine says:

"Tea is the bulwark of Washington society, and it should have kept the old custom from falling, if wine was the cause of the fall. I have always thought, however, that the reason people gave it up was because they were too tired after the President's reception to stand from II to 6 receiving. At least, that was the reason I gave up my New Year's receptions. It is a pity, too, especially for the elderly gentlemen. They used to enjoy it so much. When I received I always served tea, and as I am somewhat bignoted upon the subject and think tea should be good to I have not been particular to that pretty girls at the table, but always put some one who knows how to brew a dirink, although the person might not be a doutante. I have always had a decenter of sherry on the table and the guests might use their own judgment about taking it."

Mrs. Hawley of Connecticut also sticks to tea:

"Dear, no. I never have anything else but tea at my New Year's receptions. I think them great fun, as they are all novel to me. In England they do not have the custom. But about wine. I never noticed any one who had been drinking too much when they came to call upon me, and really, now, I ennot recall ever seeing any ope intoxicated in Washington; although I have heard dreadful stories at a reception. But then I am not very observant."

The wife of benator Spooner said:

"The womap or gir who offers one of my sone glass of wine will personally affront me."

sake of other womens' sons, and daughters, too, for in many instances it has proved as dangerous for Washington girls to drink who as for young men to do so, for my boys' sake I never keep wine in the house nor drink it at any other house. It was a hard struggle when I came to Washington to refuse at a dipner. I was cowardly—that is, it is really delicacy of feeling with a women. She does not want to rebuke other people who may not have the same reasons for refusing it. It was difficult then; it is an easy matter now. I always allow the butler to fill the first glass so that attention will not be airracted to my plate, then, when he comes for the other wines, I put my finger on my glass and be passes me. There is no use having the glasses filled and thus waste the wine. From what I have seen I judge there is as much wine drinking now as there aver was, except at New 10st a receptions. Women think they must even have it at their luncheon parties."

I have never received at any house on New

WHAT WE ARE ALL TALKING ABOUT

An inspection of the fancy work shops on the leading

this season painting has knocked out embroidery as a pastime for the women. The windows are filled with

hand-painted things of every degree of uselessness and

Shon sirls do not have to not in only all their time of

this season in selling Christmas presents to other people; sometimes they receive presents themselves, it is quite the proper thing now for ladies to give some

little token at holiday time to the girls who have watted

upon them during the year. One such woman was dis tributing a dozen or so of pocketbooks, bargain counter

ones, but real real leather, in an up-town store the day

before Christmas, and oftentimes the presents to favore

The latest variation of the Eiffel Tower is in a Four-

teenth strest window, where the great structure is

duplicated in handkerchiefs, countingly put together

and incide it run up and down elevators made out of the little barbed cages in which canaries are sold in.

Photograph frames have quite driven Christmas cards

out of fashionable society this season. The frames are

made of paper, cards, leather or similar fabric, and are

decorated with hand painting or other colored work. They are made in all shapes, single, double, quadruple, long, wide, narrow, and short, and they cost just enough

more than Christmas cards to take them out of the

A stent and argressive woman elbowed her way up to the silver counter at one of the big stores the other day,

and said pompously to the clerk, who was waiting at

the time on some one else;
"How much are your toothpicks?"
"We don't keep them at this counter," said the girl.

tried to, with a look of scorn, and repeated:

"We don't keep them here, madam,

implements four or five inches long.

neatness and despatch.

The portly and haughty woman crushed the girl, or

"I asked you how much are those toothploka?" The girl was evidently mystified, and replied again:

"You don't keep them ! Then what are those !" ex

claimed the woman, with a haughty gesture toward a little velvet-lined box containing a dozen sharp-pointed

"Those are nut-picks, madam," said the girt, in a

cruelly distinct voice.

The haughty woman lost herself in the crowd with

Look out for a new kind of coffee that is not coffee.

frome claver Frenchmen at the Island of Secusion have discovered that the fruit of the wild orange that grown

there has the aroma of the coffee berry. As it costs less

to raise the wild orange than regular coffee, naturally the planters are substituting the former for the latter, and the government, even, has ordered that a great

part of the highlands on the island be reserved for the

on the coffee horizon is in the fact that the new berry will be so cheap that it will, if its culture succeeds

drive out chicory, and as an adulterant it is said to be

The revolutionary proposition which is credited to

Comptroller Myers of making changes in the Comp-troller's office from among the ranks of these who have been in the service of the city for half a century or

more has been received naturally, with some manifes

tations of increduitty. It seems to a good many that those persons who have been long in the Compiralier's office are there, as it were, by right of pessession, and

any attempt to secure successors to them would be an act of unexampled audacity. Feveral of these venera-

ble incumbents were originally placed in office by the late Azariah C. Flagg, and were continued during the

days of service of Haws, Brennan Connolly, Palmer

treen, Kelly, Campbell, Hastings Grant, and Loew

They have held these places with great tenacity, but it seems as if there would actually be, on Jan. 1, a change,

through the removal of several of those who had Frank

in, Butledge, Clinton, and other leaders of politics in

the early days of the republic as their backers but seem to have slipped from the mind of the present gen-

eration. The aged employee of one of the down-town

banks excused recently his absence from duty for a day (the first absence of the kind in twenty five years) on the ground that his grandfather (who holds a position in the Comptolier's office) had not been feeling very

well, and that he deemed it his duty, aged and infirm

though he was himself, to render to the city efficial whatever assistance he could.

The action of the Republican Club on Monday nights a passing resolutions antagonistic to any future coali-

ion between Republicans and any Democratic faction

for municipal offices has given much excuse for excite-

ment among many of the Republican district leaders, who hope, by a coalition of some sort, to have a hand in

the election of the next Mayor of New York. Similar

resolutions were passed by the Republican County Committee in December 1877. But at the next election the Republican party in town united with Democrats just the same, and that is how Solon B. Smith, Jacob M. Pat-

What has become of the project to unite New York,

terson, and Hufus B. Cowing came to be Judges

much less vile than that staple coffee cheapener.

ultivation of the new bogus coffee. One bright gleam

all the embroidery to be seen has a left over from las

year look that tells the story of the fashion.

individuals are quite costly.

category of "cheap" gifts.

ever was, except at New loads receptions. Women think they must even have it at their luncheon parties.

"I have never received at any house on New Year's Day where they served wine," said the wife of Congressman Burrows. They have had coffee, chocolate, tea apolitinaris, and the nextless thing to wine, "shrub." made of lemons and raspberry cordial. The harm is not in the wine, but in giving it to young people.

The debatances do not agree with the matrons. They like the old custom, and say it it is to be kept up. It is only by serving wine. One of the prefitest of last rear's buds had her "coming out" party last New Year's. As the "men" were presented to her, she turned bilitely to her aids and said.

Take him out now and fill him up with champagns."

The mothers heard her with horror and prophesied all sorts of evils for her, but she is now pursuing a course of notable success. She is a Senator's daughter.

Thera are rurs of hope, however, for the old-time callers. At some houses the sparkle of champagne will still mate the gleam in the caller's eye, and the cork will mount upward with his spirits. The wives of renators Stockbridge, Ouay, McMillan, and Frye, as well as those mentioned before, will not give a dion to drink, but most of the hale Justices of the Supreme Court will have decanters as well as toffee urns, and there will be a light punch, and perchance champagne, where the wives of the Santors Fydate. Edmunds, Dawes, Dolph, Paddieck, Stanford, Inguils, Cockrell, and Davis are hostesses.

THE THEOLOGICAL AWARENING.

Something of the Same Nature that Hap-peacd Not Long Ago, TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In your editorial this morning on "The Theological Awakening." after summing up the pro-

posed solution of the question, you say: "Of course no such inconsistent and illogical method of dealing with the question will avail. and yet it will probably be the conclusion reached by the next General Assembly."

"What has been may be." For instance, the Congregational Council held in Boston during the winter of 1865-66, was the first held in this country since the famous one at Saybrook, which was held shortly after the one at Cambridge in 1649, which was while the Westminster was in session, 1643-49. Both of these American creeds strongly affirmed the Calvinism of the one at Westminster. In the little town of Cromwell, Conn., good Descon John Stevens, still living, was hotly opposed to Calvinism. One Sunday about this time a young clergyman from Rocky Hill, occupying the pulpit, preached a strong Calvinistic sermon.

preached a strong Calvinistic sermon. When the Sunday school convened, just after the sermon, the Superintendent, this same good deacon, affirmed that such Calvinism was not fit to proach to the dovil.

It so happened that this deacon had been a lay delegate to the Boston Council, which had been receiving much attention from the secular press, while the Rev. J. P. Guiliver, then pastor at Norwich of the church of which our war Governor. Buckingham, was a member, fully discoursed on its approaching session in the Independent, outlining its probable action. The members of this Council went to Plymouth Rock in great style and there heard read a new

The members of this Council went to Pivmouth Rock in area: style and there heard read a new ereed written by the Rev. A. H. Quint for the occasion, in which Calvinism was learlessly readirmed. The deacon voted for it.

On meeting the deacon soon after he joked me about the narrowness of the Episcopai Church, of which I was a clergyman, in not recognizing the orders of the Congregational Church. I neatly replied in the presence of two Baptist ministers by calling his attention to his pronounced condemnation of Calvinism and his vote for it on Plymouth Rock, and asked him why he voted in its favor. He frankly replied, "I did it for peace."

If your prophecy should come to pass, a similar explanation will probably be given by those so doing. But of what moral weight will be such a decial of Calvinism under the cover of a modified affirmation of it? Both the Cambridge and Saybrook platforms by name reaffirmed the statements of the Weetminster Assembly and the one at Plymouth Rock reaffirmed both the Cambridge and Saybrook declarations.

C. Colland Adams.

Waterbury, Conn.

A Bombay Barrister's Encounter with

From the St. Louis Republic

Private Dalzell is getting old and has become very intrin in neatth and is to be plain about it burdened with delits he can never pay. He became introduced with delits he can never pay. He became increasing the property in Calavell, O, for \$5.0; and still owes Robert Clark & Co of Cincinnati, O, \$5.0; for publishing his book. He paid this firm every dollar hopeity that he could rabe and scrape, the suite proceeds of the sac of his book, but could not pay off the balance nor release the mortasse. It was an unfortunate advanture, but it was undertaken by the Frivate for the most laudalle purpose, as declared in his preface, namely, for the breakt of the wife and children.

ly, for the benefit of his wife and children.

Seeing that he was as wamped hast year, and could nove hope to estrice a simpel, he made a last effort to do so by appealing directly to ins supposed friends. Testion Herrison, beinging Bierman, and Copporal Testing Herrison, beinging Bierman, and Copporal Testing and the second of the second the deputyship in the Privace could have purposed the deputyship in the Privace could have purposed once, for it sees which out the saying that he do not nonor, and keenly feels the smharrassment of the first selection. This was his last chance. The selection in the spring that he do not not not see which has not been a selection of the select

THE BUN.

"Proverbially the Best,"

Well begun is half-way done, Proverbs take their sue

From the people: here is one

On the run, the faire to shun,

With the truth to go, Is in brief the plan that wen

Truths from none but shors words spur

Every mind; for lo,

"If you see it in Tue Box.

Then it must be so."

" If you see it in Ton firs,

Come to stay and grow.
"Weil began is half-way done?"

Let your good work show;"

Fit to hold in view

"If you see it in Tun Ace.

Brooklyn, and the southern portion of Westchester int one municipal government? The Pan-American ladies were one of the beliday attractions at many of the large dry goods stores last week. They generally went about in parties of four or five, and were quickly identified by the crewds in the From the St. James's Gazette A correspondent writing to the Bombay A correspondent writing to the Bombay Gazette from Aden furnishes exciting details of a flerce encounter between Mr. J. D. Inverarity, the well-known Bombay barrister, and an infuriated itoness, whom he met on a scrubby plain a hundred miles from Berbera, Mr. Inverarity was accompanied by two Somalis, who, like himsell, carried firearms and were full of pluck. The first game of the kind of which he was in quest which it was his good fortune to see was a lioness, accompanied by a cub. She was in the sand, and he got a stores and followed about with respectful ouriesity. The great object seemed to be to hear them talk, and when they were heard to use English all the curious folks looked disappointed and even went so far as to whisper among themselves that they didn't believe the ladies were genuine South Americans at all. and were full of pluck. The first game of the kind of which he was in quest which it was his good fortune to see was a lioness, accompanied by a cub. She was in the sand, and he got a fair shot at her and howled her over. She got up and made for some grass. While there Mr. Inverarity followed her up and gave her a second shot, wounding her in the law and breaking a fang. She again turned and made for some scrub. When she got in there she refused to come out. Mr. Inverarity, believing the was dying in the scrub, tried to get in and give her the coup de grass. Folied in this attempt, he caused the scrub to be set on fire to windward, and stood within twenty yards of the fire on the other side. The lioness came out at a spot sourcely twenty yards distant from where Mr. Inverarity was standing rille in hand. She charged straight for him. He fired when she was within two yards of the muzzle of the rifle and hit her. In a second she was on him and got him down beneath her on the grass. She laid hold of his arm, and his fate would have been then scaled but for the intropolity of the two Somalis, who rushed up to the iloness and discharged two builets into hor body close to hir. Inverarity's head, she let go Mr. Inverarity and made back for the scrub, but, chauging her mind, she charged again, and once more proceeded to man Mr. Inverarity. The two Somalis, who had no time to reload, assailed the wounded lioness with the muzzles and butt ends of their rifles and beat her off. They reloaded, and following her up killed her with two more builets. Mr. Inverarity pulled himself together, and, notwithstanding his many wounds, tock a hotograph of his dead antagonist, who had so fearlessly tried conclusions with him at close quarters. The number of his wounds was sixteen, thirteen being inflicted with the claws and three with the teeth. He washed out these with carbolic acid. The teeth wounds were very painful, but those inflicted with the claws and three with the read. The doctor ordered him to proceed to England, and was the A newspaper man went to interview the apperin with a lot of letters complaining that the cars on the road were too cold. "You'll save me a lot of trouble if you'll let me have hose letters," said the superintendent, reaching into his desk and taking out a package of documents. "How is that ?" "Why, here is a bundle of complaints we have re celved about the cars being kept too warm. If you'll let me have yours I can send the cold letters to the hot writers and the hot letters to the cold writers, and se make all the growlers answer each other."

Persons who have no occasion to travel the streets on the extreme west side after nightfall can have no idea of the daugers pedestrians run in this district during this period of badly lighted streets. The danger is not from evilly disposed persons or thieves, but from the terribly bad condition of the sidewalks and streets, and across the walk. The pavements in many places are broken and there are holes and ruts at almost every turn. The atreets are usually clear of trucks, and car drivers, if they happen to be behind time, dash along at a furious rate. Some of the streets are not lighted at all, while the only lights in others are very feable gas dark it really is.

Ex-Senator Thomas C. Platt, with Mrs. Platt and ex-Gov. Alger and Mrs. Alger, start to-day in a special car for a trip through most of the Southern States, going as far south as New Orleans. The party will be gone about two weeks. All the lines of the Tennessee Coal and Iron and its auxiliary brauches will be investigate by the President of the company, Mr. Platt, and by

The drivers of Descon Richardson's Fifth avenue care Brooklyn are either athletes themselves or they believe that all the patrons of the line should be. For this reason, probably, they drive ilekety-split and fulpace around all curves. The passengers on the plat-forms away and tumble over each other, while others inside have fine exercise grapping the straps and hardenting the sensitive corns of their neighbors. The pas-sengers, thus have the simplest and most all-around system of gymnastics yet discovered.

A casual glance at the death columns in the newspapers of New York. Brooklyn, and Jersey City yesterpapers of New York, Brooklyn, an Jersey Uty yester-day, and a like impeorition of those in the newspapers of Fhiladeiphia, Albany, and other near-by sittes, revealed how many four-rais were to be held on Christmas Uay. To thousands upon thousands it was the brightest and happiest day of all the year. To those interested in these funerals it was the saddest, and no Christma

come that the serrow of yesterday will not be recalled. A number of members of the Southern Society of New York, many of whom were warm friends and admirers of Henry Woodfan Grady believe that the society should have a commemorative tablet of the dead editor and orator. They are of the opinion that on this tablet to Mr. Grady's memory should be the Leantiful words of

the German poet: "Whose face was a thanksgiving for his past life and

A love letter to all mankind.

The Rev. John J. Hughes happened to be at the Metre politan Ari Museum last week when the Pan-American party visited the institution, and a friend introduced him to several of the delegates. Among them was the Hon. F. C. C. Zegarra of Pern. Vice-President of the Conference. The two gentlemen had been in conversa-tion but a moment when they discovered that they had been classmates twenty-odd years ago at Fordham College. Names had been forgotten by each, but some thing familiar in look and voice led to the recognition.

And they running of together over the exceeding narrow limitations of this planetary dwelling place.

At the last public dinner in New York which Henry . Grady attended be sat opposite Chauncey M. Depow Toward the end of the banquet Mr. Grady remarked gentleman by his side:

I've teen watching Mr. Depew, and I notice he drinks no wine. Is that his custom r."
"Yes, he drinks almost mbining. The greatest indulgence I ever knew him to allow himself was to barely sip occasionally from his champagne glass."

"Well. I've about made up try mind that that is the only course to adopt if you want to make an after dis-per speech that is worth hearing or worth remembed-ind. I mean to make it my rule hereaftem?"